

Table 50.
Aggregate annual poverty gap before and after Social Security benefits, December 1998

Characteristic	Before Social Security	After Social Security	Percentage reduction in gap
Disabled workers			
All	15,968,637,620	12,680,205,394	20.6
Sex			
Men	9,417,033,850	7,708,263,306	18.1
Women	6,551,603,769	4,971,942,088	24.1
Race			
White	11,691,631,909	9,635,981,739	17.6
Black	3,984,707,440	2,893,967,994	27.4
American Indian, Alaska Native	a	a	a
Asian, Pacific Islander	a	a	a
Ethnicity			
Non-Hispanic	14,616,844,114	11,853,716,220	18.9
Hispanic	1,351,793,505	826,489,175	38.9
Age			
Under 25	a	a	a
25–34	1,190,305,883	785,698,941	34.0
35–44	3,335,530,815	2,645,509,624	20.7
45–54	5,114,505,949	4,019,184,021	21.4
55 or older	6,310,158,858	5,217,966,672	17.3
Disabled adult children			
All	3,062,074,290	2,328,631,655	24.0
Sex			
Men	1,986,066,688	1,495,678,723	24.7
Women	1,076,007,603	832,952,932	22.6
Race			
White	2,148,987,620	1,695,066,328	21.1
Black	821,590,626	542,069,282	34.0
American Indian, Alaska Native	a	a	a
Asian, Pacific Islander	a	a	a
Ethnicity			
Non-Hispanic	2,792,885,456	2,147,869,606	23.1
Hispanic	a	a	a
Age			
Under 25	a	a	a
25–34	922,480,489	730,084,671	20.9
35–44	986,961,608	694,549,769	29.6
45–54	a	a	a
55 or older	a	a	a

SOURCE: 1996 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) matched to SSA administrative records.

NOTES: Individuals receiving disability benefits in December 1998 are identified using SSA administrative data. The unweighted sample size is 1,039 cases for disabled workers and 142 cases for disabled adult children. Disabled widow(er)s are excluded because the unweighted sample size is less than 30 cases, which is deemed too small to support statistically reliable estimates. The aggregate poverty gap is the sum of the shortfall between family income and the poverty threshold. By definition, the shortfall is zero for individuals in families with income greater than the poverty thresholds.

a. Sample size is too small to support statistically reliable estimates.

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